

WEXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting * Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Leslie Housler.

Roll call: Present – Commissioners Michael MacCready, Leslie Housler, Michael Bengelink, Michael Bush, Julie Theobald, Gary Taylor, and Judy Nichols; Absent – Commissioners Robert Hilty and Bill Goodwill.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Added – 6. Credit Application – SA Morman

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the agenda, as amended.

All in favor.

Employee Recognition - None

Presentations and Reports

1. Injection Wells – American Waste

Vicki Garon, Engineer for American Waste, appeared before the Board to make a presentation on injection wells. American Waste/Wexford Water Technologies has made a proposal to the EPA and the DEQ to put injection wells at the landfill. They are requesting a Class 1 permit, which is for a deep well for non-hazardous materials which includes the disposal of leachate. Leachate tanks are in place now and from the tanks the leachate will go into the injection wells.

Ms. Garon then explained the process, materials and requirements they must follow to install the well. There are safety requirements put in place by the State including monitoring the well heads. They also have monthly reports they must file with the State as well an annual inspection. The proposed injection well will be located within the landfill boundary.

Public Comments

Michele Hoytenga, State Representative, explained that she does not generally get involved in local matters. She has been hearing from her constituents against the wells and felt it was important for her to step forward. She understands that economically it makes sense. However, due to the potential damage to the people of the county and the property values, she cannot support the wells.

Rita McNamara, Cedar Creek Township, appreciated the discussion made by this Board at the last meeting on the injection wells. She believes there is a great risk to health and

property if the wells are installed. Cedar Creek Townships residents live with contamination every day. She concluded that when American Waste purchased the landfill they were aware of the leachate cost.

Fred McNabb, 10683 E. 16 Road, Manton, raised concerns about keeping contaminated water out of our lakes and streams. He felt contaminated water will raise to the surface.

Harry Yonkman, Boon Township, touched on his concerns about Petcoke.

Larry Paquette, Cedar Creek, does not support the injection wells being placed at the landfill. He believes they will fail and the problem will not surface until it is too late to take care of it.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the November 1, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

All in favor.

Agenda Items

1. Resolution 17-31 Opposition to Wexford Water Technologies LLC Injection Well at Wexford County Landfill
MOTION by Comm Nichols, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve Resolution 17-31 Opposing the Issuance of Wexford Water Technologies Draft Permit Number MI-165-11-0002 by the Environmental Protection Agency or Department of Environmental Quality for the Propose of Drilling and Constructing an Injection Well for the Disposal of Landfill Wastewater of Leachate in the City of Manton, County of Wexford, as presented.

(Note: Board members requested the resolution title be changed to include the Department of Environmental quality. A friendly adjustment was made to the motion.)

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

2. District Court Probation Request
MOTION by Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Total Court Services and Wexford County for drug and alcohol monitoring through the District Court Probation department, as presented.

Kristie Hatinger, District Court Probation Officer, appeared before the Board to explain the efficiencies this program would bring to District Court.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

3. 911 Director Compensation/Benefits
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve the 911 Director's compensation with a range of \$45,000 to \$55,000, as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Budget Amendments
MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to approve a budget amendment dated 11/15/2017 in the amount of \$6000 to track the funding for the Probate Visiting Judge, as presented.

11/15/2017

**Wexford County Board of Commissioners
Amendments to the 2017 Budget**

Adj #	Acct	Acct Description	Revenue	Expense
20171101	101.148.721.00	Health Insurance		\$ (1,935) (a)
	101.136.800.00	Contract Services		\$ (4,065)
	101.131.800.21	Visiting Judge-Probate Vacancy		\$ 6,000

To track the funding for visiting Probate/Family Court Judges due to the retirement of Judge.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

5. Committee of the Whole – None
6. S.A. Morman – *Added*
MOTION by Comm Theobald, seconded by Comm Taylor to approve an application for credit and guaranty through S.A. Morman & Co., as presented.

Roll call: Motion approved unanimously.

Administrator's Report

Jayne Stanton, County Treasurer / Co Administrator, explained to the Board that they needed to decide what sale price they would like on the Recycle Center. Board members agreed the property was worth \$175,000.

Correspondence

Smith & Johnson – Opioid Litigation

Jason Elmore, Wexford County Prosecutor appeared before the Board to speak on

the opioid litigation correspondence. He began by explaining the difference between street drugs and opioid medications. The Board was cautioned about getting involved in this litigation. Attorneys generally do not send out letters of solicitations for business. Mr. Elmore encouraged the Board to speak to their legal counsel before moving forward.

Public Comments

John Fuscone, Cedar Creek Township, thanked the Board for passing the resolution tonight against the injection wells. He would like to see this county pass an ordinance against any injection wells in the county.

Liaison Reports – None

Board Comment

Comm Bengelink thanked Prosecutor Elmore for the information he provided the Board on the opioid litigation. Also, he understood the request made by American Waste, but the residents in his area (Selma and Cherry Grove) do not want the wells and he will not support them either.

Comm Theobald thanked the Board for working together on the injection wells and hearing from people from outside the area.

Comm Nichols thanked the Cedar Creek residents from coming forward. She also announced that the WEX will be open for walking on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Comm MacCready had brought the opioid litigation up at an earlier meeting. He would like the Board to consider passing an ordinance against injection wells. He also touched on feral cats and amending the Animal Control Ordinance to include them.

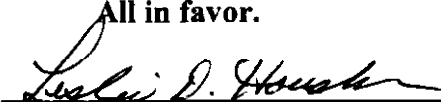
Chairman's Comments

Comm Housler understands the injection wells from a business standpoint. However, Commissioners are not elected to represent business. They are voted in to represent their constituents of Wexford County.

Adjourn

**MOTION by Comm Taylor, seconded by Comm Theobald to adjourn
at 6:40 p.m.**

All in favor.


Leslie D. Housler, Chairperson


Elaine L. Richardson, County Clerk